

Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the second paragraph of the first page of the specification as follows:

The present invention is directed to a novel protocol for an ad-hoc, peer-to-peer radio network system having coordinating channel access to shared parallel data channels via a separate reservation channel. This system is disclosed in United States Patent Number 6,404,756, granted on June 11, 2002, ~~co~~pending application Ser. No. 09/705,588, filed on Nov. 3, 2001, entitled "Methods and Apparatus for Coordinating Channel Access to Shared Parallel Data Channels", which application is incorporated by reference herein in its entirety.

Please amend the paragraph crossing the first and second page of the specification as follows:

The network system having coordinating channel access to shared parallel data channels via a separate reservation channel of United States Patent Number 6,404,756 ~~co~~pending application Ser. No. 09/705,588 is directed to a network system, such as radio network, where each node, or radio terminal, of the network is capable of serving as a node or hop of a routing path of a call from another, or to another radio terminal. In that system, communication between nodes or radio terminals is achieved using Carrier Sense Multiple Access with Collision Avoidance (CSMA/CA) protocol with the addition of multiple parallel data channels serviced by one reservation channel. By dedicating a separate reservation channel for the multiple parallel data channels, collision-free access by all of the competing nodes or terminals of the service group of the network is greatly reduced. Communications between terminals or nodes is set up by information exchanged on the separate reservation channel, which information includes all of the call set-up information such as data channel desired to be used for transferring voice, video or data, the desired power level of at least initial transmission, messaging such as Request-to-Send (RTS), Clear-to-Send (CTS), Not-Clear-to-Send (NCLS), Acknowledgment (ACK) for indicating reception of the transmitted call, Non-Acknowledgment (NACK) for indicating improper reception of the call, etc. In this system, in order to further ensure fast, adequate and collision-free transmission and reception, besides a primary modem typically provided with the transceiver of each node or terminal, a secondary modem is also provided which is dedicated to the reservation channel when the primary modem of the transceiver is occupied, such as when

sending out data on a data channel. This system also provides for collision free transmission and reception between nodes or terminals by transmitting the reservation and data channels in time slots of time frames, with the information as to which time slot is to be used being included in the messaging transmitted by the reservation channel. Such a format not only provides collision-free transmission, but also allows for Quality-of-Service (QoS) for different types of Class-of-Service (CoS). Thus, not only may voice and video be transmitted, besides data, but voice and data transmission may be prioritized, so that when competing calls vie for a data channel, the delay-dependent voice or video transmissions will take precedence. This prioritization is accomplished by assigning prioritized calls for transmission in earlier time slots of a time frame.

Please amend the first full paragraph of the second page of the specification as follows:

The network system disclosed in United States Patent Number 6,404,756 U.S. application Ser. No. 09/705,588 ensures that every node or terminal of a service set of terminals has the most information regarding all of other terminals of that service set, so that the choice of data channel to be used, any required delay in transmitting the call, information on power level, and the like, are checked and updated by each terminal by a practically continuous monitoring of the reservation channel.

Please amend the first paragraph of the third page of the specification as follows:

As explained above, the system disclosed in United States Patent Number 6,404,756 U.S. application Ser. No. 09/705,588 utilizes protocol that provides collision-free channel access, which also emphasizes improving geographic reuse of the frequency spectrum.

Please amend the first full paragraph of the fourth page of the specification as follows:

In commonly-owned United States Patent Number 6,873,839, issued March 29, 2005, entitled Prioritized Routing For An Ad-Hoc, Peer-To-Peer Mobile Radio Access System~~”~~
~~provisional application serial No. 60/248,182, which application~~ is incorporated by reference herein, there is disclosed an ad-hoc, peer-to-peer radio system for use as a stand-alone system that is also connected to a cellular network and/or PSTN. The ad-hoc mobile radio networking system thereof is capable of receiving and transmitting voice, data and video calls through any number of different types of telecommunication networks, such as the PSTN, the Internet, and the like, besides the cellular and next-generation cellular networks.

Please amend the second paragraph of the fifth page of the specification as follows:

The system of the present invention is much more complex due to multiple, parallel data channels that are coordinated by a single reservation channel. In this system, a combination of CSMA/CA, TDMA (time division multiple access), FDMA (frequency division multiple access), and CDMA (code division multiple access) is used within the channel access algorithm. The transceiver used in the system employs two modems to solve the channel reliability issues with multiple channel designs, as disclosed in the above-described United States Patent Number 6,404,756 ~~depending U.S. application Ser. No. 09/705,588~~. Specifically, the system dedicates a receive-only modem for gathering channel usage information on the reservation channel. The reservation channel operates a hybrid CSMA/CA and TDMA algorithm. The remainder of the protocol uses FDMA for the multiple data channels, and CDMA for multiple users on the same data channel.

Please amend the first paragraph of the sixth page of the specification as follows:

Reference is also had to ~~depending~~, commonly-owned United States Patent Number 6,873,839, issued March 29, 2005, U.S. patent application serial No. 09/~~_____~~, filed on~~_____~~, 2001, entitled "Prioritized-Routing for an Ad-Hoc, Peer-to-Peer, Mobile Radio Access System", which is incorporated by reference herein, in which there is disclosed an example of routing table messaging which may be used in the present invention.

Please amend the first full paragraph of page 7 of the specification as follows:

The system of the present invention utilizes a method and algorithm which, in the preferred embodiment, is intended for an ad-hoc network system called "ArachNet", and is based on least-energy routing of calls from or between network radio terminals. In simple terms, the major component of the routing decision is to choose the route to the destination that uses the least amount of energy over the complete route. The major reason for this is that least-energy routing minimizes the radiated RF energy, in order to reduce interference between terminal. A consequence of this is that it creates the most efficient use of the power supply of the terminals. Routing tables based on this least energy routing are developed by the system of the invention, and stored at one or more radio terminals, which routing tables are transmitted and stored by other terminals forming part of the link by which a call is connected. An example of such a routing table is disclosed in ~~depending~~, commonly-owned United States Patent Number 6,873,839, issued March 29, 2005, U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/ , filed on , 2001, entitled "Prioritized-Routing for a Ad-Hoc, Peer-to-Peer, Mobile Radio Access System", which is incorporated by reference herein.

Please amend the third full paragraph of page 8 of the specification as follows:

While the protocol method of the present invention is disclosed with regard to an ad-hoc, peer-to-peer radio system, the protocol is equally applicable to any wireless LAN, wireline network, and the like, to which the method and system disclosed in United States Patent Number 6,404,756 ~~depending U.S. application Ser. No. 09/705,588~~ may apply.

Please amend the first full paragraph of page 15 of the specification as follows:

The protocol (AP) of the system of the present invention applies to an ad-hoc, peer-to-peer radio network system having coordinating channel access to shared parallel data channels via a separate reservation channel, as disclosed in United States Patent Number 6,404,756 ~~co-pending U.S. application Ser. No. 09/705,588~~. In the radio network system of the invention, there is no fixed base station; each radio terminal is capable of acting as a mobile base station. The protocol of the present invention provides such an ad-hoc, peer-to-peer radio system with the capability of preventing collisions of data transfer. In high-density populated area (conference halls, stadium, downtown of big cities, etc.), the protocol of the present invention allows each terminal to perform close to its maximum theoretical capacity, while dropping the requests in excess. Such behavior is in contrast with conventional polling-type protocols that cannot provide any service when the number of requested connections is larger than a particular fraction of terminal capacity.

Please amend the paragraph crossing pages 19 and 20 of the specification as follows:

The power level of the modem for the configuration channel (CC) information is greater than that of the modem for transmitting data on the data channels (DC), since an AT must first send out connectivity information with enough power to reach other AT's of its respective service set (SS). Once this has been done, and a routing path determined, which routing path will indicate the first AT that shall constitute the first hop or link of the routing path, which hop is closer to the requesting AT than at least most of all of the other AT's of the SS, the other modem dedicated to the transmission of data on the DC's will only have to transmit at a power level less than that of the modem dedicated to the configuration channel. Thus, since applications data (AD) are transmitted at a lower power than that of the configuration data (CD), the condition for collision in data channels can be identified before it occurs, with appropriate measures being taken for preventing it, such as the use of CDMA. In addition, since the data channel data is transmitted at a lower power level, interference is reduced since the RF waves of the data channels do not propagate as far along the SS. It is noted that in the case where the primary modem is used most of the time for transmitting both configuration data as well as channel data, with the dedicated reservation-channel modem only being used when the primary modem is occupied with sending out messaging on the data channels, the primary modem will have its power level changed in accordance with which channel it is transmitting, as disclosed in United States Patent Number 6,404,756 ~~depending U.S. application Ser. No. 09/705,588~~. However, in the preferred form of the invention, the dedicated configuration-channel modem receives and transmits configuration data regardless of the state of the primary modem.

Please amend the second full paragraph of page 20 of the specification as follows:

When first powered on, or when approaching a group, the new terminal (AT) listens to messages in the time frames (TF), creates a utilization map based thereon, and computes its transmit power, in the manner disclosed in United States Patent Number 6,404,756 ~~depending U.S. application Ser. No. 09/705,588~~. According to the protocol of the present invention, it submits the first message in the last time slot (TS) of the time frame, using as much power as needed in order to reach all AT's from which it has received similar messaging, that is its service set (SS). The message shows the utilization map it knows about, and requests to register with the closest AT. In the utilization map, it marks as busy all time slots (TS) during which a message or high-level noise was received during the last time frame, and also marks the time slot where it intends to move to with the next frame. The TS where it wants to move in the next time frame will have been reported as free in utilization maps of all AT's of the SS. In every time frame, the AT creates the utilization map based on time slots it identified as being busy (a signal was received during the TS), and it receives similar maps from all other AT's in the transmit-set of each AT (TxS). Identifying free TS's consists in making a bit-wise OR between all received maps. The result shows free time slots as bits with value zero and busy TS as bits with value one.

Please amend the second paragraph of page 21 of the specification as follows:

The group of messages for data transfer planning is used for adjusting the transmit power, building, re-building, re-routing and releasing links, as described hereinbelow in detail. As disclosed in United States Patent Number 6,404,756 ~~depending U.S. application Ser. No. 09/705,588~~, some of them are used before starting the transfer of data packet, and some are used while the data transfer takes place. Data Channels (DC's) are mainly used for moving data packets from one AT to another. Some of the data transfers require confirmation/rejection of received data, and some not. A rejection of received data is an automatic request for retransmitting the associated data package. Broadcast services do not require any confirmation of received data correctness.